



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Francisco Bay Region



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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND FILING OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT for a

TMDL and IMPLEMENTATION PLAN TO REDUCE SEDIMENT IN THE NAPA RIVER WATERSHED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Regional Water Board, or Board), will hold a public hearing to amend its Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan). The amendment will establish:

- **A total maximum daily load (TMDL) for sediment in the Napa River watershed, and an implementation plan to achieve the TMDL**
- **A Habitat Enhancement Plan for the watershed**

The hearing will be held as follows:

HEARING DATE	December 10, 2008 (subject to change) ¹
TIME:	9:00 a.m. (approximate)
LOCATION:	Elihu M. Harris State Building First Floor Auditorium 1515 Clay Street Oakland, CA 94612

On January 23, 2007 the Regional Water Board adopted a Basin Plan amendment incorporating a sediment TMDL, implementation plan, and Habitat Enhancement Plan for the Napa River watershed. At its December meeting the Board will again consider the amendment along with changes made to it and its supporting documentation. Changes to the January 23, 2007, documents include:

- A new performance standard for vineyards in the Basin Plan amendment
- Minor corrections or clarifications to the Basin Plan amendment problem statement, required sediment control actions, and recommended habitat enhancement actions
- Changes to the problem statement and implementation plan of the Staff Report reflecting results of a study of the impacts of low base flows on juvenile steelhead growth in the Napa River watershed, which was completed after the Board adopted the amendment
- In Staff Report Chapter 6, an update to the discussion of channel habitat enhancement projects along the Napa River
- Revisions to the environmental document under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

¹ Please refer to the website given below for any hearing date changes and updates.

The Board will take action in accordance with a regulatory program certified under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code as exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under CEQA and with other applicable laws and regulations.

The revised documents are available online at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/tmdls/napariversedimenttmdl.shtml.

They are also available through the staff contact for this project, Mike Napolitano, 1515 Clay St., Ste. 1400, Oakland, CA 94612, mnapolitano@waterboards.ca.gov, (510) 622-5682. Revisions are shown in underline/strikeout.

The 45-day public comment period for the proposed amendment expires at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 20, 2008. All written comments on the proposed amendment and accompanying documents are due by this date to the staff contact. Previously submitted comments need not be submitted again as they are already part of the record. Additionally, all evidence, testimony, and exhibits to be offered at the hearing must be submitted in writing by this date to the staff contact. Non-evidentiary policy statements to be made at the hearing need not be submitted in advance.

Prior to the December 10 hearing, Water Board staff will release any further changes to the proposed Basin Plan amendment and/or accompanying staff report, along with written responses to all new comments received during the public comment period. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider adoption of the proposed Basin Plan amendment, including changes to the proposed amendment that are consistent with the general purpose of the proposed amendment and are a logical outgrowth of the evidence and testimony received.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with 23 Cal. Code of Regs. §649.3. Time limits may be imposed on oral testimony at the public hearings; groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. A map and directions to the hearing are available online at

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/direction.shtml>. The location of the hearings is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Executive Assistant Mary Tryon, (510) 622 2399, mtryon@waterboards.ca.gov, at least five (5) working days before a meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer